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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/628,369	07/29/2003	Cullen Edwin Bash	200310137-1	5156

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EXAMINER

JIANG, CHEN WEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3744

DATE MAILED: 09/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/628,369

Applicant(s)

BASH ET AL.

Examiner

Chen-Wen Jiang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 and 29-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5,6,11,12 and 27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,7-9,13-26 and 29-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Species I in the reply filed on 6/30/2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the Examiner has unequivocally proven that all of the claims in the present application can be searched and examined without serious burden, as evidenced by the fact that the Examiner has already examined all the pending claims. In response, the search has not been done based on the rejection that the species are replaceable. Applicant disagrees with the rejection and the statement about the species are obvious variants from Applicant is required to withdrawn the restriction. Admission on the record that the groups are not patentably distinct will result in rejoinder. With regard to the "no burden" argument, it is noted that each distinct invention beyond one is a burden in that it draws the attention of the Examiner to its own quality requirements. Examination requires focus to follow search leads and patterns of logic in formulating applications of the prior art to which is claimed. When the Examiner has to pursue several search patterns of logic simultaneously or serially, added burden is presented. Applicant's election of Species I, claims 1-4,7-11,13-26 and 29-39 is acknowledged. However, claim 11 is withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner because claim 11 is readable from Species IV.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1,2,7-9,13-20,22-26 29-37 and 29-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Otoi (JP 06002892) in view of Zweig (U.S. Patent Number 6,658,325).

In regard to claims 1,2,7-9,13,14,16-20,23-26,29-37 and 39, Otoi (referring to the Figures) discloses a color temperature sensor system to enable air conditioner provides a wide area with uniform temperature distribution. The system comprises air conditioner 5, user side units 8, color temperature sensors 9, color image sensors 10, air-ports 11, main controllers 6 and controller 8. A neural network forms in a microcomputer system to make pattern recognition and perform processing and control command. The main controller 6 is equipped with the microcomputer and control equipment with CPU, RAM and ROM. The memory and command are inherent in the microprocessor system and also discloses in the prior art of Zweig.

In regard to claims 15,22 and 38, Zweig discloses a mobile robotic to move within range of the external devices, such as sensors, to discover their functionality and send and receive data to the external devices through the robot's onboard web server.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3,4 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otoi (JP 06002892) in view of Sasaki et al. (JP 11322125).

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Otoi discloses the invention substantially as claimed. However, Otoi does not disclose liquid crystal color sensor. Sasaki et al. disclose liquid crystal sensor in the same field of endeavor for the purpose of sensing temperature. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the apparatus of Otoi with a liquid crystal sensor in view of Sasaki et al. so as to measure the temperature.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 10 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chen-Wen Jiang whose telephone number is (571) 272-4809. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 to 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Chen-Wen Jiang
Primary Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned to the right of the name and title.